[19th March 1929

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—" May I ask, with reference to the settlement operations in South Kanara, whether they consist only in bringing books up to date or also of revising, the classification and altering the rates of assessment ?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" They are at present engaged in writing up changes and dealing with objections from those concerned, but whether they will be alteration of rates is a matter for the future."

Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU :—" May I take it that the Government have no idea of postponing these operations till a Land Revenue Bill is brought into effect or have they got any idea of bringing in a Land Revenue Bill ?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" The operations in progress are necessary for the administration whether there is a Land Revenue Bill or not."

Wild animals

Issue of gun licences for protection against wild animals in the Kottayam taluk, Malabar.

* 1780 *Q.*—Mr. K. UPPI SAHIB : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to call for the information and state—

(*a*) how many persons and cattle have been killed by tigers and wild animals in Malabar, especially in the Kottayam taluk of Malabar district during 1928 ;

(*b*) how many applications for gun licence from the interior amsams of the said taluk were received by the District Magistrate of Malabar in 1928 and how many of them were granted and how many were rejected ;

(*c*) whether Government have received any complaints that wild animals do great havoc to agriculturists in the amsams of Arlam, Thillangeri, Kizhoor and Kannavam and other neighbouring amsams ;

(*d*) what is the number of gun licence-holders in those amsams ; and

(*e*) why more licences have not been issued ?

A.—(*a*) Nineteen persons were reported to have been killed by wild animals and snakes in the Kottayam taluk during 1928—one by an elephant, five by tigers and thirteen by snakes. The total number of persons reported to have been killed by wild animals in the whole district during 1928 was 193 (seven by elephants, five by tigers, three by other animals and 178 by snakes). The number of cattle reported to have been killed by wild animals in the Kottayam taluk during the year was 420 and the total for the whole district was 2,081.

(*b*), (*d*) & (*e*) A report has been called for.

(*c*) No.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" In view of the fact that such a large number of persons as 193 were killed in the Kottayam taluk and about 2,081 were killed by wild animals in the whole district, may I know from the Government what steps they have taken to prevent this sort of ravage by wild animals in the district ?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" I can only say that Government give rewards to those who kill animals."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"If that is the reason, may I know why Government have reduced the amount for the next year? As a matter of fact, there is a reduction in the amount for the purpose."

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS:—"I am obliged to the hon. Member for the information. I do not know it myself."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—"May I know whether, apart from these rewards, any other step is taken by Government?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"I must ask for notice. I personally am not aware of any."

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—"Will the hon. the Revenue Member see that these rewards are increased as there are so many deaths?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"That is a matter which is periodically considered. If the hon. Member wishes it to be considered as regards the Kottayam taluk, I will be glad to do so, having regard to the special knowledge that I have of the tract."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"May I know whether any present is given for killing snakes, because more people were killed by snakes according to the list given in the answer?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"I believe not, Sir."

Education

The disciplinary action taken against the Law students who took part in the political functions.

*1781 Q.—Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether any students attended the function of the presentation of addresses of welcome to the Simon Commission on 18th February 1929 at Madras and if so, in what colleges they are reading and in what classes;

(b) whether the educational authorities or college authorities have taken any disciplinary action against them for attending the said political function;

(c) whether the Principal of the Law College has dismissed three students of the Law College for absenting themselves from the College on 18th February 1929;

(d) what is the punishment ordinarily given to any student for absenting himself from the Law College for one day;

(e) whether the Principal Mr. Ruthnaswamy has consulted the Director of Public Instruction in the matter and if so, what advice the Director gave him;

(f) whether the said Principal has also consulted the hon. the Chief Minister in the matter and if so, what instructions he has given him; and

(g) whether the Government intend interfering in the matter and restoring the students to the college cancelling the orders of the Principal?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information.

(c) Prior to the arrival of the Simon Commission some students of the Law College were known to be organizing a strike and the Principal warned them that such action would entail forfeiture of their term certificates as being subversive of college discipline. Three students who had organized the strike